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Agenda item 73

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Macaire KABORE (Burkina Faso)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted
by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

- "(a) Report of the Disarmament Commission;
- "(b) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;
- "(c) Status of multilateral disarmament agreements;
- "(d) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;
- "(e) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research"

was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 36/92 H of 9 December 1981, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, 44/119 G of 15 December 1989, 45/62 F and G of 4 December 1990, 46/38 A to D of 6 December 1991 and 47/54 A, E and F of 9 December 1992.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 2nd meeting, on 14 October 1993, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 57 to 75 and 77 to 82. The deliberations on those items took place at the 3rd to 14th meetings, on 18 to 22, 25, 26 and 28 October (see A/C.1/48/SR.3-14). Consideration of draft resolutions on those items took place at the 18th to 23rd meetings, on 3 to 5, 8 and 9 November (see A/C.1/48/SR.18-23). Action on draft resolutions on those items took place at the 24th to 30th meetings, on 11, 12, 15, 16, 18 and 19 November (see A/C.1/48/SR.24-30).

4. In connection with item 73, the First Committee had before it the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament; 1/
- (b) Report of the Disarmament Commission; 2/
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/48/325);
- (d) Report of the Secretary-General on steps to strengthen the Office for Disarmament Affairs (A/48/358);
- (e) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of multilateral disarmament agreements (A/48/388);
- (f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters in its capacity as Board of Trustees of the Institute (A/48/270);
- (g) Letter dated 12 July 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the documents adopted by the twenty-first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (A/48/396-S/26440);
- (h) Letter dated 5 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/477);
- (i) Letter dated 11 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/594-S/26733 and Corr.1);
- (j) Letter dated 2 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/48/7).

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27).

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolutions A/C.1/48/L.3 and Rev.1

5. On 27 October, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Germany, Ireland, Mauritius, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Ukraine submitted a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/48/L.3).

6. At the 29th meeting, the representative of Brazil introduced the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the annual report of the Disarmament Commission, 3/

"Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992 and 47/54 G of 8 April 1993,

"Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions of the tenth special session,

"1. Takes note of the annual report of the Disarmament Commission;

"2. Commends the Disarmament Commission for its adoption by consensus of a set of guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security, which were recommended to the General Assembly for consideration, pursuant to the adopted 'Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission'; 4/

"3. Endorses the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of international security as adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session;

"4. Notes with satisfaction that the Disarmament Commission has made significant progress in achieving agreement on guidelines and recommendations under the agenda item entitled 'The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields', which is to be concluded in 1994;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42).

4/ A/CN.10/137.

"5. Reaffirms the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

"6. Recommends that the Conference on Disarmament consider, within its competence, the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of international security;

"7. Reaffirms the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

"8. Encourages the Disarmament Commission to continue to make every effort to enhance its working methods so as to enable it to give focused consideration to a limited number of priority issues in the field of disarmament, bearing in mind the decision it has taken to move its agenda towards a three-item phased approach;

"9. Requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 5/ and with paragraph 3 of resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted 'Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission';

"10. Recommends that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1993 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration at its 1994 substantive session:

- "(1) Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons;
- "(2) The role of science and technology in the context of international security;
- "(3) International arms transfers, with particular reference to resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991;

"11. Recommends that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1994 organizational session, consider including in the agenda of its 1995 substantive session an item entitled 'General guidelines for non-proliferation, with special emphasis on weapons of mass destruction';

"12. Requests the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1994 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

"13. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, 6/ together with all the official records of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

"14. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages, and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services to this end;

"15. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled 'Report of the Disarmament Commission'."

7. On 16 November, the sponsors submitted a revised draft resolution (A/C.1/48/L.3/Rev.1).

8. At its 29th meeting, on 18 November, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.3/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 139 to none, with 1 abstention (see para. 14, draft resolution A). The voting was as follows: 7/

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland,

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27).

7/ Subsequently, the delegation of the Dominican Republic indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: United States of America.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.41

9. At the 23rd meeting, on 9 November, the representative of Egypt introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/48/L.41), which was later also sponsored by the Czech Republic.

10. In connection with the draft resolution, the Secretary-General submitted a statement on its programme budget implications (A/C.1/48/L.55).

11. At its 30th meeting, on 19 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.41 without a vote (see para. 14, draft resolution B).

C. Draft resolution A/C.1/48/L.46

12. On 4 November, Egypt and Poland submitted a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research" (A/C.1/48/L.46), which was later also sponsored by Paraguay. The text of the draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 34/83 M of 11 December 1979, in which it requested the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research on the basis of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General, 8/

"Reaffirming its resolution 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, in which it approved the statute of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the functions of which are, inter alia, to assist ongoing negotiations on disarmament and to continue efforts to ensure greater international security at a progressively lower level of armaments, in accordance with article II, paragraph 2 (c), of the statute,

"Recommends that the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in programming its activities, should assist the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating body in the field of disarmament, and the United Nations Disarmament Commission in fulfilling their respective mandates while maintaining the autonomous status of the Institute."

13. At the 24th meeting, on 11 November, the sponsors stated that they would not press for action on the draft resolution.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

14. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

A

Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the annual report of the Disarmament Commission, 9/

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992 and 47/54 G of 8 April 1993,

Recalling further the proposal to include a new item in the agenda of the Disarmament Commission entitled "General guidelines for non-proliferation, with special emphasis on weapons of mass destruction",

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions of the tenth special session,

1. Takes note of the annual report of the Disarmament Commission;
2. Commends the Disarmament Commission for its adoption by consensus of a set of guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security, 10/ which were recommended to the

9/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42 (A/48/42).

10/ Ibid., annex II.

General Assembly for consideration, pursuant to the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission"; 11/

3. Endorses the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security as adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session;

4. Notes with satisfaction that the Disarmament Commission has made significant progress in achieving agreement on guidelines and recommendations under the agenda item entitled "The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields", which is to be concluded in 1994;

5. Takes note of the continuing consideration by the Disarmament Commission of the item entitled "Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons", which is to be concluded in 1994;

6. Reaffirms the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

7. Recommends that the Conference on Disarmament consider, within its competence, the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of international security;

8. Reaffirms the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

9. Encourages the Disarmament Commission to continue to make every effort to enhance its working methods so as to enable it to give focused consideration to a limited number of priority issues in the field of disarmament, bearing in mind the decision it has taken to move its agenda towards a three-item phased approach;

10. Requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, 12/ and with paragraph 3 of resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

11/ A/CN.10/137.

12/ Resolution S-10/2.

11. Recommends that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1993 organizational session, adopt the following items for consideration and conclusion at its 1994 substantive session:

- (1) Process of nuclear disarmament in the framework of international peace and security, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons;
- (2) The role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields;

12. Also recommends that the Disarmament Commission, at its 1993 organizational session, include in the agenda of its 1994 substantive session an item entitled "International arms transfers, with particular reference to resolution 46/36 H of 6 December 1991";

13. Requests the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding four weeks during 1994 and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament, 13/ together with all the official records of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services to that end;

16. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

B

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament, 13/

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

13/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27).

Considering, in this respect, that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching concrete agreements,

Welcoming the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to give to its Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban a mandate to negotiate such a ban,

Noting with satisfaction the results achieved so far on the subject of improved and effective functioning of the Conference on Disarmament, as well as the decision to carry out inter-sessional consultations with a view to achieving consensus on the issue of its membership during the inter-sessional period, and the decision to continue consultations on the issue of the agenda at its 1994 session,

1. Reaffirms the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;
2. Welcomes the determination of the Conference on Disarmament to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items of its agenda;
3. Also welcomes the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to give to its Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban a mandate to negotiate such a ban;
4. Urges the Conference on Disarmament to reach a consensus that would result in the expansion of its membership before the start of its 1994 session;
5. Encourages the ongoing review of the agenda, membership and methods of work of the Conference on Disarmament;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the provision, to the Conference on Disarmament, of additional administrative, substantive and conference support services for its negotiations;
7. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;
8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".
